[Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar.]

in the Secretariat. In the case of the other interpellations, materials for replies are called for from heads of departments and other officers concerned and the answers are, and can be, furnished only when their replies are received. The member's attention is also invited to the answer to question No. 243 given at the meeting of the Council held on the 20th April 1926.

(*b*) It is not practicable to prescribe hard and fast rules.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether at the time the heads of departments are asked to furnish materials, they are also asked to do so within any fixed time?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): A time-limit is prescribed to supply the necessary materials. But it will not be possible always to furnish the information, as in some cases the members require statistics for several years.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know whether there are safeguards to see that they do not purposely avoid furnishing the materials for an answer?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Definite instructions have been issued to the heads of departments to treat these interpellations as urgent.

Entertainment of Ezhavas, Catholics, etc., in the Land Revenue Department.

99. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they recognise the principle that all classes of subjects of the State have an equal claim to the appointments in the Land Revenue Department; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons for not giving adequate representation to Catholic Christians, Ezhavas, Mahomedans and such other communities in this important department?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Instructions have been issued to the Land Revenue and Income Tax Commissioner, as also to other heads of departments and offices, to give adequate representation to all communities in his department.

Representation of Catholics in the Land Revenue Department.

100. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): (1) Are the Government aware that the Catholics have great grievances because of their not having been given any representation worth the name in the Land Revenue Department even after the Revenue-Devaswom separation?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to issue stringent instructions to all the officers competent to make appointments in the above department to give due representation to the Catholics?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) The answer is in the negative.

(2) Instructions have already been issued to give due representation to all classes not adequately represented, consistent with qualification and efficiency.

Appointment of Non-Hindus and Non-caste Hindus as Heads of certain Departments.

101. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to appoint only non-Hindus and non-caste Hindus as heads of those departments in which those communities are inadequately represented, till they are adequately represented in those departments?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Government do not consider it feasible to do so.

Statement, by Castes, of Appointments in the Secretariat.

102. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table:

(*a*) a statement, by castes, of those who are holding permanent and acting appointments in the Secretariat; and

(*b*) a statement showing the appointments, permanent as well as acting, made in the Secretariat during the last three years (1098-1100)?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The statements * asked for are laid on the table.

Keeping Firearms wihout License by People living in hilly Tracts.

103 **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to give immediate effect, in the interests of the people, to the resolution passed at a previous session of the Legislative Council that people living in hilly tracts subject to the inroads of wild animals may be permitted to use firearms without license?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer given to part (*e*) of interpellation No. 252, published at page 789 of Volume VIII of the Council Proceedings.

Appointment of Elected Members of Representative Bodies in Public Service.

104. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to rule definitely that they will not give any appointments to the elected members of the representative institutions until the expiry of their period of representation?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The question raises an important issue and might appropriately form the subject of a resolution.

**Vide* Appendices I A and I B—page 326 and 327.

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